

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An external rotor motor (12), comprising an internal stator (52); a stationary support part (18) supporting the stator; and an external rotor (49), cooperating with the internal stator (52), and mounted on bearings for rotation with respect to the stator, said rotor having a casing part (14) on whose inner side (28) is arranged a permanent-magnet arrangement (50) that coacts with the internal stator (52).
2. The motor of claim 1, wherein the motor is electronically commutated.
3. The motor according to claim 1, wherein the support part (18) is configured as a substantially cylindrical part, and further comprising at least one closure member (76, 78) having an outer periphery which abuts, with at least one sealing element (90), against a peripheral inner surface of the casing part (14).
4. The motor according to claim 3, wherein the closure member (76, 78) has, on its inner periphery, a protrusion (82) that engages into a corresponding recess (84) of the support part (18).
5. The motor according to claim 3, wherein the closure member (76, 78) has, in its radially inner region, a resilient portion (80) in order to facilitate mounting thereof onto the support part (18).
6. The motor according to claims 3, wherein the support part (18) has at least one portion (86, 88) of frusto-conical shape, in order to facilitate sliding of the at least one closure member (76, 78) onto the support part (18).

7. The motor according to claim 3,
wherein an inner side of the casing part (14) has,
adjacent said at least one closure member (76, 78), a segment
(92) of hollow frusto-conical shape, in order to facilitate
insertion of the closure member (76, 78) into the casing part
(14).

8. The motor according to claim 1,
wherein a respective rolling bearing (24, 40) is arranged
adjacent each of two axial ends of the casing part (14),
radially between the casing part and the support part (18).

9. The motor according to claim 8, further comprising
at least one compression spring (30), mounted within said
casing part (14), said spring acting upon one of the races (26)
of a rolling bearing (24) and thereby effecting an axial
clamping between the inner race (22) and outer race (26) of that
rolling bearing (24).

10. The motor according to claim 8, wherein
a prong ring (32), whose prongs engage into the inner side
(28) of the casing part (14), is provided as an abutment for the
compression spring (30).

11. The motor according to claim 8,
wherein the inner races (22, 38) of the two rolling
bearings (24, 40) are mounted on the support part (18).

12. The motor according to claim 8,
wherein the rolling bearings are of different sizes.

13. The motor according to claim 1, further comprising, for
control purposes,
a control magnet (60), secured to the casing part (14),
and at least one galvanomagnetic rotor position sensor (62)
associated therewith, in order to sense the rotational position
of the casing part (14) relative to the support part (18).

14. The motor according to claim 13,
wherein a nonmagnetic spacer (58) is provided
between the control magnet (60) and the magnet arrangement (50)
associated with the electronically commutated motor (12).

15. The motor according to claim 14, wherein
the at least one rotor position sensor (62), associated
with the control magnet (60), is arranged on a circuit board
(68) that is secured nonrotatably to the support part (18).

16. The motor according to claim 15, wherein electronic
controls of a motor implemented as a collectorless motor are
arranged substantially entirely on the circuit board (66).

17. The motor according to claim 15, wherein
the circuit board (66) extends substantially perpendicular
to a rotation axis (67) of the casing part (14).

18. The motor according to claim 1, wherein,
in order to constitute a magnetic return path for a
permanent magnet (50, 60) of the rotor, the casing part (14)
is made at least locally of a ferromagnetic material.

19. The motor according to claim 1, wherein,
upon assembly, the support part (18) is insertable, with an
insertion end (94), from a first end of the casing part (14),
into said casing part;

wherein furthermore a first rolling bearing (24) is mounted
with its inner ring (22) on the end region (96) of the support
part (18) facing away from that insertion end (94),

and the outside diameter of the outer ring (26) of that
first rolling bearing (24) is dimensioned such that it is
displaceable substantially without radial clearance in the inner
side (28) of the casing part (14).

20. The motor according to claim 19,
wherein a second rolling bearing (40) is mounted (48) with
its outer ring (44) in the region of the second end of the

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casing part (14) located opposite the first end.

21. The motor according to claim 20,
wherein the outer ring (42) of the second rolling bearing
(44) is retained between a stop (46), provided on the inner side
of the casing part (14), and a retaining member (48) provided
there.

22. The motor according to 19, wherein
a sensor arrangement (62, 66), for sensing the rotational
position of the external rotor (49) relative to the internal
stator (52), is arranged between the first rolling bearing (24)
and the internal stator (52) mounted on the support part (18).

23. The motor according to claim 22, wherein
the sensor arrangement (62, 66) has associated with it a
control magnet (60) mounted on the inner side (28) of the casing
part (14), the number of whose poles is greater than the number
of magnetic poles (50), coacting with the internal stator (52)
and secured to the casing part (14), of the external rotor (49).

24. The motor according to claim 23, wherein
a nonmagnetic spacer ring (58) is arranged between the
magnet poles (50) of the external rotor (49) and the control
magnet (60).

25. The motor according to claim 1, wherein
an axial recess (68), and a radial recess (70) intersecting
said axial recess, are provided in the support part (18).

26. The motor according to claim 25,
wherein a respective electrical connector member is
arranged in the axial recess (68) and in the radial recess (70),
which connector members are connected to one another by means of
a plug connection adjacent an intersection of those recesses
(68, 70).

Matthews
Weld-Jets
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12/4/2003